IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Thomas C. RUSSELL, et al.

Application No.: 10/601,689

Filed: June 23, 2003

Title: Method and Apparatus for Providing a Selectively Isolated Equipment Area Network for Machine Elements with Data

Communication Therebetween and with Remote Sites

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TC/A.U.: 2446

Examiner: Benjamin R. BRUCKART

Docket No.: ED0100

Customer No.: 40582

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed November 18, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 18, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the following amendments and/or remarks:

Amendments to the Specification are not included in this paper.

Amendment to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.